(d) Sections 375 and 376, IPC have been substantially changed by the Criminal Law (Amendment)Act, 1983 (Act of 1983). The Act has introduced several new sections 376A, 376B, 376C and 376D. These new sections have been introduced with a view to stop abuse of women in custody, care and control by various categories of persons.

The Law Commission of India in its 172nd report on "Review of Rape Laws" has, inter-alia, recommended various changes in sections 375, 376 and 509 of IPC for making punishment more severe. The recommendations of the Law Commission are under examination.

MoU signed between India and China

69. SHRIMATI N.P. DUGA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and China have signed an MoU to combat drug trafficking, terrorism, gun-running along the border areas; and

(b) if so, the details of the MoU?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The MoU signed on 8th September 2005 provides for exchange of experience and information on terrorist activities and their linkages as well as exchange of experience on terrorism related crimes. Further, the MoU provides for cooperation in prevention and suppression of illegal and criminal activities, subject to respective domestic laws, in the areas of money laundering, economic crimes, crimes against wild life, drug trafficking and trafficking in fire arms and ammunition, forgery of passport, visas and other documents, cyber crime and other transnational crimes.

Review of training methodologies by BSF

70. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that BSF is thinking of reviewing its training methodologies so as to keep pace with the new challenges; and

(b) how the BSF is placed now to deal with the ingenuity of the adversaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Review of training methodologies and their calibration are ongoing processes in BSF. This takes into account the threat perception and requirements of the Force as reflected in the feedback from troops, inspection reports and case studies of important operations and incidents.

(b) BSF is prepared to take on any challenge posed by the adversaries by maintaining strict vigil on borders, and keeping the personnel in top form through rigorous training programmes. To assist the Force in its border guarding role, Government have taken up various programmes and activities like establishment of new Border Outposts (BOP), erection of border fences, construction of border roads along IB, provision of border flood lights at certain places, floating BOPs in reverine areas, mobile observation posts and introduction of high tech equipment and devices.

Losses due to disasters

71. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that every year the country is losing 2 per cent of its GDP in disasters';

(b) if so, whether Government are thinking of having a disaster management policy to turn disasters into opportunities; and

(c) if so, the details of the proposed policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) According to a World Bank study published in August 2003, a rough assessment indicated that direct natural disaster losses in India equated to up to 2% of India's GDP.

(b) and (c) The Government have introduced the Disaster Management Bill, 2005 in the Rajya Sabha on 11th May, 2005. The Bill provides for requisite institutional and coordination mechanisms to be put in place at National, State, District and Local level. The National Disaster Management Authority has been constituted with the Prime Minister as Chairperson to